

CLAIMS

- 1 An optical scanning device for scanning an information carrier (201) comprising a plurality of information layers which optical properties depend on a potential difference
5 applied between two electrodes (203, 204), said optical scanning device comprising a fixed part comprising means (302) for generating a signal comprising information about a selected information layer, and a rotating part comprising means (301) for receiving said information carrier, said receiving means comprising a plurality of contacts (311-318) for connecting said electrodes, means (303) for detecting said signal, means (401) for decoding said signal and
10 means (402, 403, 404) for applying a potential difference between the contacts connected to the electrodes corresponding to the selected information layer.
- 2 An optical scanning device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the means for applying a potential difference comprise a battery (403).
- 3 An optical scanning device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an induction coil
15 (501) mounted on the rotating part and means (502) for applying a magnetic flux through said induction coil in order to create an inductive current, the means for applying a potential difference being adapted to apply a potential difference corresponding to said inductive current between said two contacts.
- 4 An optical scanning device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the generating means are a
20 radiation source (602) and the detecting means comprise a photosensitive detector (601).
- 5 An optical scanning device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the radiation source is a radiation source which is used for scanning the information carrier.
- 6 An optical scanning device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detecting means
25 comprise a conductive ring (801) and the generating means comprise a brush (802) adapted to transfer said signal to said conductive ring.
- 7 An optical scanning device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the conductive ring comprises a conductive fluid (1004).
- 8 An optical scanning device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detecting means
30 comprise a first conductor (1101) and the generating means comprise a second conductor (1102) adapted to transfer said signal to said first conductor by means of capacitive coupling.
- 9 An optical scanning device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detecting means
comprise an induction coil (1201) and the generating means comprise electromagnetic means (1202) adapted to create an inductive current inside said coil, said inductive current corresponding to said signal.

10 A method for changing optical properties of a selected information layer in an
information carrier comprising a plurality of information layers which optical properties
depend on a potential difference applied between two electrodes, said method comprising the
steps of generating a signal comprising information about the selected information layer,
5 detecting and decoding said signal, and applying a potential difference between the
electrodes corresponding to the selected information layer.